

## Message Text

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63

ACTION SY-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 /021 W  
----- 033417

O R 192215Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2937

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANAGUA 4537

STATE FOR O/SY, PANAMA FOR RSO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC NU

SUBJECT: INCIDENT INVOLVING US MARINE GUARDS

1. MRS SELINA MONTENEGRO, OWNER OF RESTAURANT-BAR "THE OFFICE" APPROACHED THE EMBASSY TODAY, NOVEMBER 19 TO PRESENT A COMPLAINT CONCERNING SIX US MARINE GUARDS ASSIGNED TO THIS EMBASSY. THE COMPLAINT WHICH HAS ALSO BEEN PRESENTED TO THE NICARAGUAN POLICE ALLEGES THAT ON SATURDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 17 THE SIX MARINES BECAME UNHAPPY WHEN PRESENTED WITH A BILL FOR 160 CORDOBAS. THE COMPLAINANT FURTHER ALLEGES THAT IN THE ENSUING BRAWL HER 16-YEAR OLD SON, WHO WAS ACTING AS CASHIER, WAS STRUCK ON THE HEAD WITH A BOTTLE, THE WOUND REQUIRING SEVEN STITCHES. SHE FURTHER STATES THAT DURING THE COURSE OF THE FIGHT A DIAMOND RING VALUED AT ALMOST \$600, EMERALD EARRINGS VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY \$700 AND \$600 IN CASH DISAPPEARED FROM HER ESTABLISHMENT. SHE ALSO CLAIMS THAT SHE HAS SPENT 200 CORDOBAS FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION FOR HER SON. DAMAGES TO THE PREMISES OF APPROXIMATELY \$360 ARE ALSO CLAIMED.

2. THE MARINES INVOLVED ARE: BRADLEY ZINICH, SALVADOR CANTU, HENRY STAGGS, RAYMOND THOMPSON, ROGER DUFF AND JOHN HUDSON. THESE MARINES ARE PREPARING INDIVIDUAL STATEMENTS DETAILING THEIR VERSIONS OF WHAT OCCURRED.

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3. NONE OF THE MARINES INVOLVED ADVISED THE NCOIC OR THE

POST SECURITY OFFICER OF SATURDAY NIGHT'S OCCURANCE. IT WAS ONLY WHEN THEY WERE QUESTIONED AFTER MRS MONTENEGRO PRESENTED HER COMPLAINT THAT THEY ADMITTED THEIR INVOLVEMENT.

4. THE EMBASSY HAS COMMUNICATED WITH THE REGIONAL MARINE OFFICER IN PANAMA AND HE WILL ARRIVE IN MANAGUA AT 9 AM TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20. THE RSO HAS ALSO BEEN ADVISED BUT HE DOES NOT CONSIDER IT NECESSARY TO VISIT MANAGUA AT THIS TIME UNLESS REQUESTED BY THE REGIONAL MARINE OFFICER.

5. BOTH LOCAL NEWSPAPERS CARRIED THE STORY IN THEIR MONDAY AFTERNOON EDITION. NOVEDADES REFERRED TO THE PARTICIPANTS ONLY AS SIX NORTH AMERICANS BUT LA PRENSA IDENTIFIES THEM AS US MARINES ATTACHED TO THIS EMBASSY.

6. WILL ADVISE AS INVESTIGATION PROGRESSES.  
WARNER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** elyme  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by elyme>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INCIDENT INVOLVING US MARINE GUARDS  
**TAGS:** ASEC, NU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005